

Appl. No.: 10/696,894
Amtd. dated: 5/30/2006

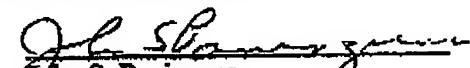
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this amendment. This Amendment is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR § 41.33 (a) prior to the filing of an appeal brief in order to simplify the issues on appeal. This amendment addresses the claim rejections under 35 USC § 112 set forth in the Official Action, mailed on February 3, 2006. Claim 77 is being amended to overcome the antecedent basis problem for the phrase, "the package". The phrase, "the package"; is being deleted and replaced with "parcel or envelope" for which there is an antecedent basis. With respect to the phrase, "the cost"; in line 15¹, the antecedent basis appears in line 11 of Claim 77. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the amendment and remarks herein overcome the rejection under 35 USC § 112.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Paragraph 6 of the Detailed Action, mailed Feb. 3, 2006 indicates line 5. However, the phrase, "the cost" does not appear in line 5 of Claim 77 but does appear on line 15. Thus, the Applicant assumes line 15 was intended.